Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior version, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently amended) A method for accessing information in a peer-to-peer network, the peer-to-peer network including a plurality of peer devices and a database system accessible by at least a portion of the peer devices, each of the peer devices being configured to store information files, and further being configured to share content from selected information files with at least a portion of ~~the~~ other peer devices in the network, the method comprising:

selecting a first information file, wherein the first information file is stored at a first peer device, and has a first associated filename;

generating, using fingerprinting algorithm, a first fingerprint ID relating to the content of the first information file; ~~and~~

~~identifying the first information file using the first fingerprint ID~~selecting a second information file having content identical to the first information file, wherein the second information file is stored at a second peer device, and has a second associated filename;

applying the fingerprinting algorithm to the content of the second information file to thereby generate an identical first fingerprint ID to that of the first information file;

storing the first associated filename and first fingerprint ID associated with the first information file in the database system;

storing the second associated filename and first fingerprint ID associated with the second information file in the database system; and

identifying both the first and the second information file using the first unique fingerprint ID.

2.   (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the fingerprinting algorithm corresponds to an MD5 Message-Digest algorithm.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the fingerprinting algorithm corresponds to a Secure Hash Algorithm (SHA1).

4. (Canceled).

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim [4] 3 further comprising:

transmitting the first filename and the first fingerprint ID to the database system for storage therein.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein the database system corresponds to a remote database system.

7. (Canceled).

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7 1 wherein the first information file is stored at a first peer device, and has a first associated filename, and wherein the second information file is stored at a second peer device, and has a has second associated filename, the method further comprising:

storing the first associated filename and first fingerprint ID associated with the first information file in the database system; and

storing the second associated filename and first fingerprint ID associated with the second information file in the database system.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)

13.   (Canceled)

14.   (Canceled)

15.   (Canceled)

16.   (Canceled)

17.   (Canceled)

18.   (Canceled)

19.   (Canceled)

20.   (Canceled)

21.   (Canceled)

22.   (Canceled)

23.   (Canceled)

24.   (Canceled)

25.   (Canceled)

26.   (Canceled)

27.   (Canceled)

28.   (Canceled)

29.   (Canceled)

30.   (Canceled)

31.   (Canceled)

32.   (Canceled)

33.   (Canceled)

34.   (Canceled)

35.   (Canceled)

36.   (Canceled)

37.   (Currently amended) A system for accessing information in a peer-to-peer network, the peer-to-peer network including a plurality of peer devices and a database system accessible by at least a portion of the peer devices, each of the peer devices being configured to store information files, and further being configured to share content from selected information files with at least a portion of the other peer devices in the network, the system comprising:

at least one CPU;

memory;

at least one interface for communicating with other devices in the peer-to-peer network;

the system being configured or designed to select a first information file, wherein the first information file is stored at a first peer device, and has a first associated filename;

the system being further configured or designed to applying a fingerprinting algorithm to the content of the selected file to thereby generate a first fingerprint ID relating to the content of the first information file; and

~~the system being further configured or designed to identify the first information file using the first fingerprint ID~~the system being further configured or designed to select a second information file having content identical to the first information file, wherein the second information file is stored at a second peer device, and has a second associated filename;

the system being further configured or designed to apply the fingerprinting algorithm to the content of the second information file to thereby generate an identical first fingerprint ID to that of the first information file;

the system being further configured or designed to store the first associated filename and first fingerprint ID associated with the first information file in the database system;

the system being further configured or designed to store the second associated filename and first fingerprint ID associated with the second information file in the database system; and
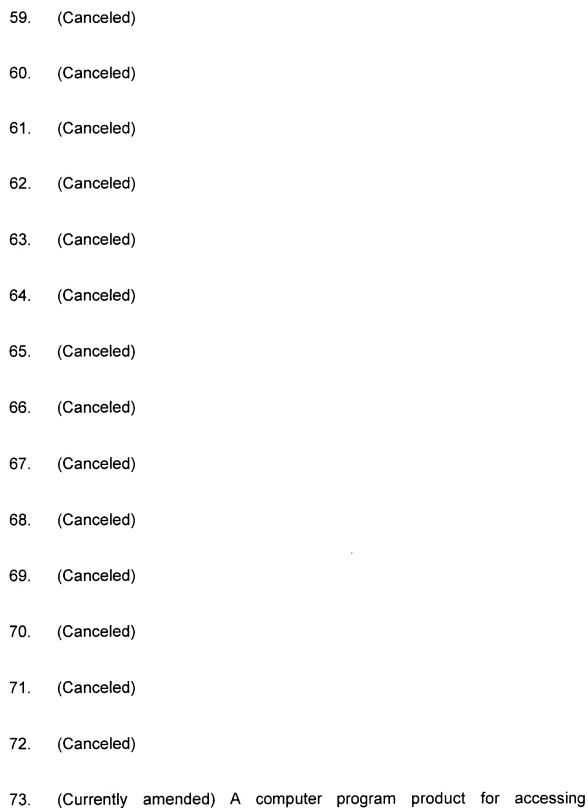
the system being further configured or designed to identify both the first and the second information file using the first unique fingerprint ID.

38.   (Original) The system of claim 37 wherein the fingerprinting algorithm corresponds to an MD5 Message-Digest algorithm.

39.   (Original) The system of claim 37 wherein the fingerprinting algorithm corresponds to a Secure Hash Algorithm (SHA1).

40.   (Canceled).

41.   (Currently amended) The system of claim ~~40~~39 being further configured or designed to transmit the first filename and the first fingerprint ID to the database system for storage therein.

42.   (Original) The system of claim 41 wherein the database system corresponds to a remote database system.

43.   (Canceled)

44.   (Canceled)

45.   (Canceled)

46.   (Canceled)

47.   (Canceled)

48.   (Canceled)

49.   (Canceled)

50.   (Canceled)

51.   (Canceled)

52.   (Canceled)

53.   (Canceled)

54.   (Canceled)

55.   (Canceled)

56.   (Canceled)

57.   (Canceled)

58.   (Canceled)

59.   (Canceled)

60.   (Canceled)

61.   (Canceled)

62.   (Canceled)

63.   (Canceled)

64.   (Canceled)

65.   (Canceled)

66.   (Canceled)

67.   (Canceled)

68.   (Canceled)

69.   (Canceled)

70.   (Canceled)

71.   (Canceled)

72.   (Canceled)

73.   (Currently amended) A computer program product for accessing information in a peer-to-peer network, the peer-to-peer network including a plurality of peer devices and a database system accessible by at least a portion of the peer devices, each of the peer devices being configured to store information files, and further

being configured to share content from selected information files with at least a portion of the other peer devices in the network, the computer program product comprising:

a computer usable medium having computer readable code embodied therein, the computer readable code comprising:

computer code for selecting a first information file, wherein the first information file is stored at a first peer device, and has a first associated filename;

computer code for generating, using fingerprinting algorithm, a first fingerprint ID relating to the content of the first information file; ~~and~~

computer code for ~~identifying the first information file using the first fingerprint ID~~ selecting a second information file having content identical to the first information file, wherein the second information file is stored at a second peer device, and has a second associated filename;

computer code for applying the fingerprinting algorithm to the content of the second information file to thereby generate an identical first fingerprint ID to that of the first information file;

computer code for storing the first associated filename and first fingerprint ID associated with the first information file in the database system;

computer code for storing the second associated filename and first fingerprint ID associated with the second information file in the database system; and

computer code for identifying both the first and the second information file using the first unique fingerprint ID.

74.   (Original) The computer program product of claim 73 wherein the fingerprinting algorithm corresponds to an MD5 Message-Digest algorithm.

75.   (Original) The computer program product of claim 73 wherein the fingerprinting algorithm corresponds to a Secure Hash Algorithm (SHA1).

76.   (Canceled).

77.   (Currently amended)   The computer program product of claim ~~76~~ 75 further comprising:

computer code for transmitting the first filename and the first fingerprint ID to the database system for storage therein.

78.   (Original) The computer program product of claim 77 wherein the database system corresponds to a remote database system.

79.   (Canceled)

80.   (Canceled)

81.   (Canceled)

82.   (Canceled)

83.   (Canceled)

84.   (Canceled)

85.   (Canceled)

86.   (Canceled)

87.   (Canceled)